

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 20 with the following:

FIGS. 1A-1C shows the partial polynucleotide sequence of ADAMTS-M [SEQ ID NO:1].

FIG. 2 shows the partial polynucleotide sequence of ADAMTS-M [SEQ ID NO:2].

FIGS. 3A-3G show domains of the ADAMTS family of proteins, and the sequences that correspond to those domains within the partial ADAMTS-M polypeptide.

FIGS. 4A-4B show homology within the metalloprotease domain of the ADAMTS-M polypeptide sequence (“M1-MPD”) with those of other ADAMTS proteins.